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TICKET TO WORK

**For People Who Have a Mental Illness:
Support on Your Journey to Employment**

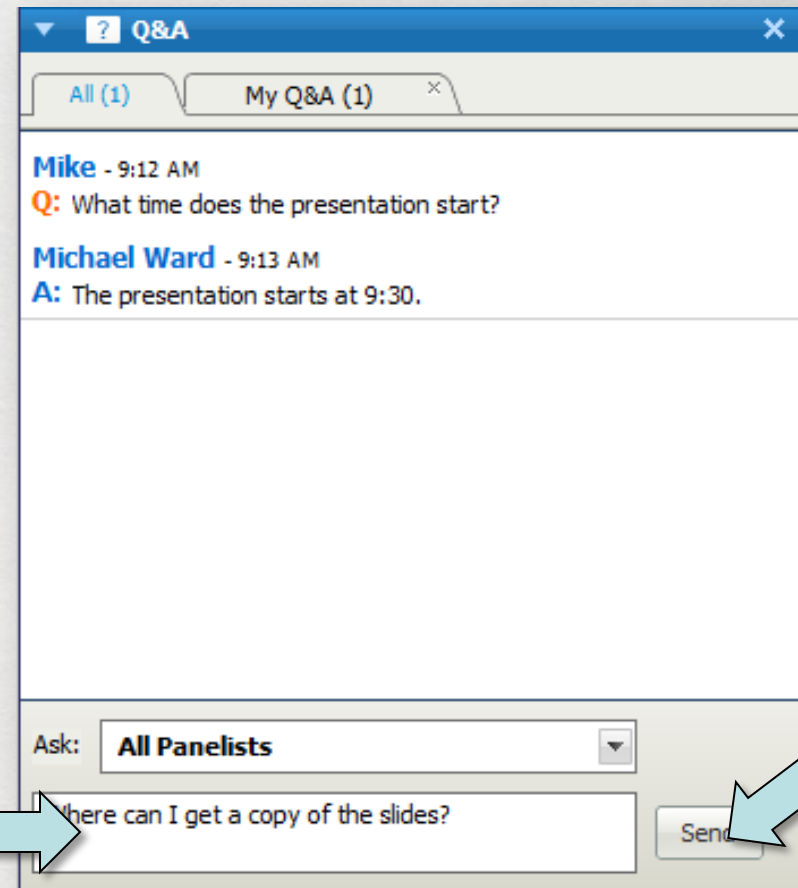
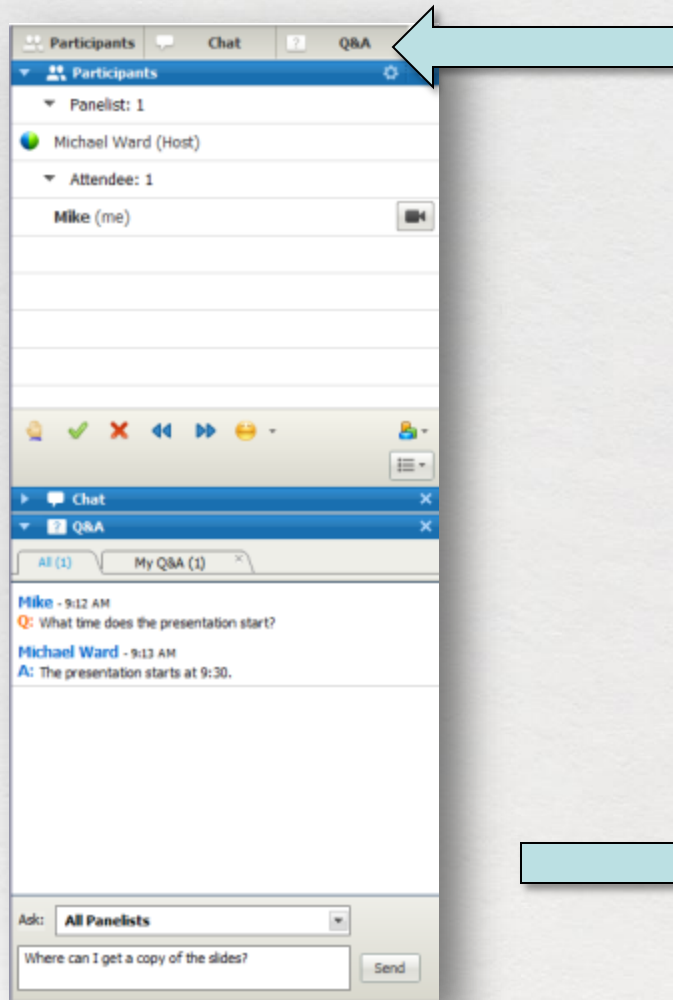
Work Incentives Seminar Event

Date: Wednesday, May 22

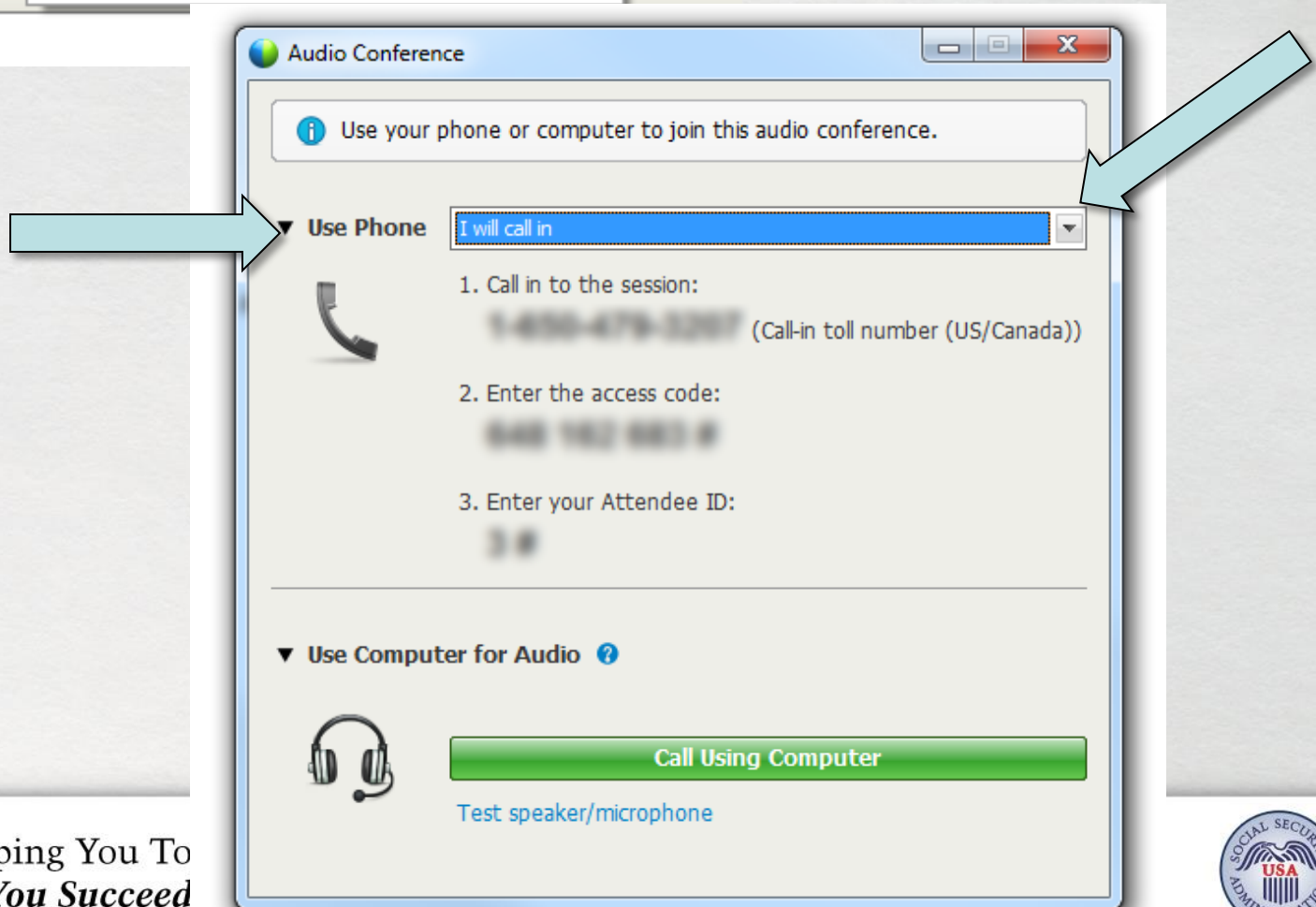
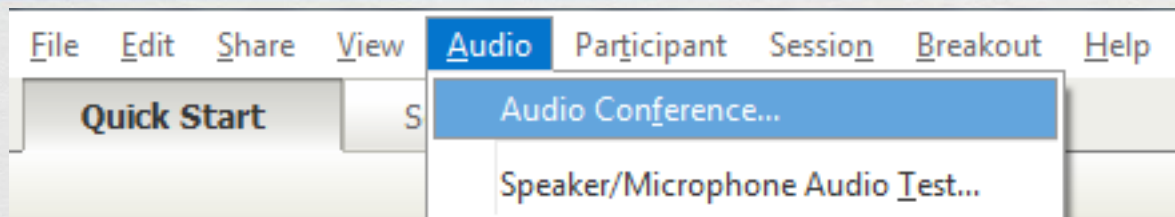
Time: 3:00-4:30 pm EDT



Adjusting Audio Mode



Audio and Questions Panels



Webinar Accessibility



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Webinar Accessibility

- Toll-Free number: 1-855-749-4750
 - Access code: 644-612-055
 - Closed captioning:
http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/captions.cfm?activity_id=4106
- Webinar PowerPoint, accessible PDF, and text are located at the URL link you received in your WISE confirmation and access letter.



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Webinar Accessibility

- Webinar presentation, transcript, and audio recording will be available in approximately two weeks at:

www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/m-wise-webinars.cfm

- Webinar question & answer period

During the webinar, submit your questions on the webinar “chat” or to

webinars@choosework.net

Anytime after the webinar day, email your questions to support@chooseworkttw.net



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Agenda

- **Welcome and Introduction**
Ray Cebula, Employment & Disability Institute, Cornell University
- **The Ticket to Work Program**
- **Employment Network**
- **Vocational Rehabilitation**
- **Other Resources**
Ray Cebula
- **Questions and Answers**
Presentation Team



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A Welcome from Bob Williams, Associate Commissioner



What Can You Expect From This Presentation?

- Information on Social Security's **Ticket to Work** program and **Work Incentives**
- **Answers to frequently asked questions**
- Where to find **more information**
- **Success stories from people** who used their Ticket to Work



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Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income



Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income
- Gain independence



Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income
- Gain independence
- **Meet new people**



Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income
- Gain independence
- Meet new people
- Learn new skills



A Real Ticket to Work Success Story!

Meet Megan

- In 2008, Megan had a major depressive episode and turned to disability benefits to keep her afloat financially.
- Ticket to Work helped her achieve a fulfilling life; Megan enjoys working and has even been able to return to competitive ballroom dancing.



When You're Ready to Work

- Gathering information and resources **is key to planning your journey** toward employment.
- **Ticket to Work** and **Work Incentives** can help make your journey a smooth one.



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When You're Ready To Work



Building your Employment Team is the best way to begin. You have options to help you get started:

- **Speak with an expert** at our Ticket to Work Help Line at 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY).
- **Learn more about Ticket to Work**, read our blog, and view, listen, or read real success stories at www.socialsecurity.gov/work.
- **Find an Employment Network** (EN) that meets your needs or work with your state VR agency.
- **Stay connected to your Employment Team** (EN or VR) as you explore your work options.

Social Security Disability Benefit Programs



Social Security
Disability Insurance
(SSDI)



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Social Security Disability Benefit Programs



Social Security
Disability Insurance
(SSDI)

Supplemental
Security Income
(SSI)



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Social Security Disability Benefit Programs



Social Security
Disability Insurance
(SSDI)

Supplemental
Security Income
(SSI)

Both SSDI and SSI =
Concurrent Benefits

Ticket to Work: The Three Most Common Myths

#1

If I try to go to work, I will automatically lose my Medicare or Medicaid.



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Ticket to Work: The Three Most Common Myths

#2

If I use my Ticket to go to work, Social Security will perform a medical review on me and I will lose my benefits.



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Ticket to Work: The Three Most Common Myths

#3

If I go to work and then have to stop working, I will have to reapply for benefits all over again. It took me forever to be approved for benefits and I cannot afford to have to wait that long again so I should not try to work.



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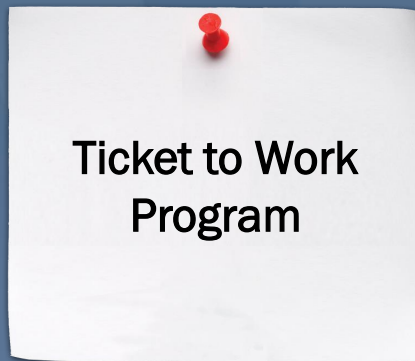
The Ticket to Work Program



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What Is Ticket to Work?



Ticket to Work is a **free** and **voluntary** program to assist SSDI and SSI beneficiaries who have a disability go to work, enter the workforce for the first time, or increase their current work hours.

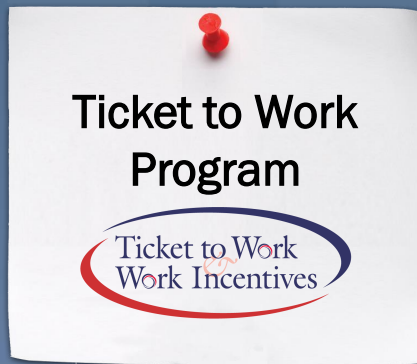
Our representatives at the **Ticket to Work Help Line** can help you understand how the program can work for you. For more information, call **1-866-968-7842** (V), 1-866-833-2967 (TTY), or visit www.socialsecurity.gov/work.



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When You're Ready To Work



The Ticket to Work Program



If You:	Ticket to Work & Work Incentives Can:
Are ready to earn more money!	Help you improve your earning potential
Need the personal fulfillment that comes from working...	Provide the assurance and stability you need to feel confident while you pursue employment
Want to be able to get benefits back if your job does not work out because of your disability...	Put you on the fast track back to receiving benefits
Are overwhelmed and do not know where to turn...	Connect you with the people, resources and services you need to develop a work plan



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- [Find an Employment Network](#) (EN) that meets your needs or work with your state VR agency.
- [Stay connected to your Employment Team](#) (EN or VR) as you explore your work options.

Work Incentives



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What Are Work Incentives?



Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:

- Receive training for new skills



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Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:

- Receive training for new skills
- **Improve the skills you already have**



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Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:

- Receive training for new skills
- Improve the skills you already have
- **Pursue your education**



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Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:

- Receive training for new skills
- Improve the skills you already have
- Pursue your education
- **Try different jobs**



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Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:

- Receive training for new skills
- Improve the skills you already have
- Pursue your education
- Try different jobs
- **Start a career**



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Work Incentives Have Many Advantages

Work Incentives provide you with a safety net so you can:








- Receive training for new skills
- Improve the skills you already have
- Pursue your education
- Try different jobs
- Start a career
- **Gain confidence**



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Common Work Incentives

 Trial Work Period (TWP) (SSDI recipients only)	The TWP allows you to test your ability to work for at least nine months. During your TWP, you will receive full SSDI benefits no matter how much you earn as long as your work activity is reported and you have a disabling impairment.
 Extended Period of Eligibility (EPE) (SSDI recipients only)	During the 36 months after the Trial Work Period, Social Security may restart your SSDI benefits without a new application, disability determination, or waiting period.
 Earned Income Exclusion (EIE) (SSSI recipients only)	Less than half of your earnings are counted by Social Security as earned income which may allow you to continue receiving an SSI check while working.
  Expedited Reinstatement (EXR) (SSDI and SSI recipients)	If your benefits stopped because of your earnings level, you can request to have your benefits reinstated without having to complete a new application. While Social Security determines if you qualify for benefits reinstatement, you are eligible to receive temporary benefits for up to six months.
  Protection from Medical Continuing Disability Reviews (CDR) (SSDI and SSI recipients)	Social Security will postpone a medical continuing disability review (CDR) while you are participating in the Ticket to Work program.

Employment Network



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Building Your Employment Team

Contacting an Employment Network

When you're ready to use your Ticket:

- Call the **Ticket to Work Help Line** at 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY) to speak with a benefits counselor and request a list of Employment Networks that serve your area.
- Visit **www.socialsecurity.gov/work** to access a list of Employment Networks near you.



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Select an Employment Network That's Right For You



After you've located a few ENs near you, choose one that can answer your employment questions:

- **How many people have you helped** through the Ticket to Work program?
- **What kinds of companies do you work with** for job placements?
- **What kinds of jobs might be available** to me?
- **How often will we communicate** and meet?

When You Call the EN Office, Remember These Tips

- The EN should explain **how the Ticket program works** and **the services it provides**.
- The EN should ask about your **work goals** and **intentions about work**.
- The EN should talk with you about any **fears you may have**.
- You and the EN will develop an **Individual Work Plan** that includes your employment goals and the services the EN will provide to help you get there.



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When You Visit the EN Office, Remember These Tips

- Your **signature on the Individual Work Plan** assigns your Ticket to the EN.
- The EN may have some other routine forms for you to sign allowing it to work with you.
- You can **un-assign your Ticket at any time** if you change your mind or decide the EN is not a good match.
- Social Security **postpones your Continuing Disability Reviews** (CDRs) are postponed as long as you are making timely progress toward employment.



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Examples of EN Services

- **Résumé development** and advice on how to fill out a good application
- **Interview skills and tips** on how to explain long absences from work without disclosing your disability
- **Job accommodation information** and resources
- **Tax incentive information**
- **Referrals to other resources** in your area



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Examples of EN Services

- **Job leads and information on employers** who are hiring, job fairs, recruiting events, etc.
- **Access to resource centers** -- computers, internet, email, phones, and fax machines
- **Job development** on your behalf
- **Referrals to other organizations** that can help you
- Continue to provide you services through the Ticket after you are finished working with Vocational Rehabilitation (Partnership Plus)



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An Employment Network Example: Services for People Who Have a Mental Illness

Some Employment Networks provide mental illness-specific job services and support.

- Our agency offers pre employment, training opportunities, job placement assistance and post employment supports through our One Stop Career Center.
- Our staff are certified Community Work Incentives Coordinators and can help you with benefits planning.
- And we are just one Employment Network example!



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An Employment Network Example: Services for People Who Have a Mental Illness

Services focus on competitive employment

- Eligibility is based on consumer choice
- Rapid job search
- Attention to consumer preferences
- Benefits planning
- One Stop Career Center services

Visit our website:

www.crossroadsdiversified.com



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Resources that can help you!

Articles:

Supported Employment for Persons with
Psychiatric Disabilities: A Review of Effective
Strategies

http://starcityblog.typepad.com/files/nmhasupported_employment.pdf

General Websites:

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

<http://www.nami.org/template.cfm?template=/contentManagement/contentDisplay.cfm&contentID=8364>



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Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services



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Ticket to Work and State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agency Services

When you use your Ticket for VR services:

- If you receive Social Security benefits because of your disability, you are **automatically eligible for VR services**.
- You and your VR counselor develop an **employment plan**.
- Your **Ticket is assigned to your VR** when you and your counselor sign your employment plan.
- Social Security will **postpone your Continuing Disability Reviews** (CDRs) are deferred as long as you are making timely progress towards employment.



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Ticket to Work and State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agency Services

When you begin to work using your Ticket with a state VR agency:

- You and your counselor discuss the opportunity to have an EN provide employment supports when your VR services end.
- When VR “closes” your case, you can use your Ticket with an EN for follow-on employment supports and services.



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Other Resources

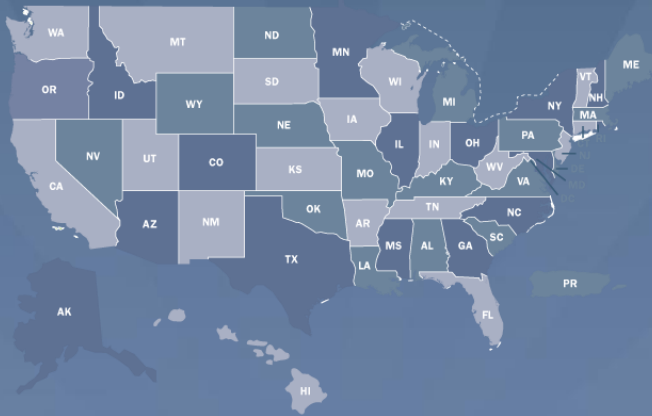
Ray Cebula



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Where to Get More Information



Visit:



www.socialsecurity.gov/work to find your local Employment Network and other Ticket to Work and Work Incentives information.

Call:

Ticket to Work Help Line:

- 1-866-968-7842 (V)
- 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)



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Questions?



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Follow us on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/chooseworkssa>

Ticket to Work Help Line: 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)



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